COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the *21st of February 1934.*
10th of Kumbham 1109.

The House met at half past eleven of the clock with the President in the Chair. Messrs. K. Mohamed Seethi and Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan were absent.

Questions and Answers.

Collection of toll—Agricultural products.

205. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) whether there was a notification exempting Agricultural products from the payment of toll, when the establishment of toll-gate at Kallur in Mukundapuram was first sanctioned;

(2) have the Government received any complaint regarding the collection of toll on such products; if so, what action was taken;

(3) how far does the road extend from the toll-gate;

(4) does not the toll-gate situate in the Panchayat road;

(5) how many toll-gates are there in the Panchayat roads in the State;

(6) is any portion of the toll collection on such roads paid to the respective Panchayats for the maintenance of such roads?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(1) No. In the kychit got executed by the toll contractors a special clause has been added that no toll should be collected for vehicles carrying agricultural products along the Kallur Panchayat road.

(2) Yes. The petitioners were informed that no toll will be levied upon conveyances used for the transport of agricultural produce.

(3) 1½ miles.

(4) Yes.

(5) Four.

(6) No.

Mr. T. A. Ramacahandra Ayyar.—Have the Village Officers reported to the Government that toll is being collected on agricultural products also?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—There has been no written complaints; but the Revenue Inspector has reported that he has received some oral complaints.

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Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Did he make any enquiry ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—He reported that the matter is being enquired into.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Was not the knowledge that no toll should be imposed on agricultural products that made them to send this petition?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—There has been no petition; but only a report by the Revenue Inspector and matter is under enquiry.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is it not the rule that it should be published at the locality itself?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It has been published as a matter of fact in the Government Gazette.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know when was it published?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I cannot say exactly; but I find from the papers that the notification was approved as per Government order dated 17th November 1932 and it was sent to the Superintendent of Stamps.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—When was the first notification?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It was the first notification.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Have the Panchayats also power to put up tolls on the Panchayat roads ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—No.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. കുമാരനെഴുത്തച്ഛൻ.—ഉദ്ദേശം എത്ര സംഖ്യ അതിൽനിന്നു പിരിയുണ്ടു് എന്നു പറയാമോ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I want notice.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. കുമാരനെഴുത്തച്ഛൻ.—ചുങ്കത്തിൽനിന്നു പിരിയുന്ന സംഖ്യയിൽനിന്നു പഞ്ചായത്തു റോഡുകളുടെ മെയിന്റനൻസിനു് (maintenance) കൊടുക്കുവാൻ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനു വിരോധമുണ്ടോ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Government must consider it in all its aspects. I cannot give an off-hand answer.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. കുമാരനെഴുത്തച്ഛൻ.—ഈ ചുങ്കങ്ങൾ വച്ചിട്ടുള്ള പഞ്ചായത്തു റോഡുകളുടെ മെയിന്റനൻസിനു് കൊല്ലന്തോറും എത്ര സംഖ്യയാണു് അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതെന്നു പറയാമോ ?

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. വി. റാഫേൽ.—ഉദ്ദേശം ൪൦൦ രൂപാ വീതം അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ.—പഞ്ചായത്തു റോഡുകളിൽ ടോൾ വെക്കുവാനായിട്ടു് എന്തെങ്കിലും പ്രത്യേക കാരണങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടോ?

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Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I find from the papers that it was in pursuance of a complaint received from the lessees of Mukundapuram and Vadakkumbhagom for the year 1108.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ.—എന്താണ് കാരണം പറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നത്?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The lessees complained that their tolls suffered greatly.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ.—വല്ല പ്രത്യേക കാരണങ്ങളുമുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതു് എന്താണെന്നറിഞ്ഞാൽകൊള്ളാം.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Notice.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ.—അമ്പല്ലൂർ നിന്നുംകല്ലുരേയ്ക്ക് ഒരു റോഡുണ്ടു്. അതിൽ വണ്ടികൊണ്ടു പോകണമെങ്കിൽ ഏതു നാഴിക വച്ചുപോകണമെന്നു് ഗവൺമെൻറിനറിയാമോ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I want notice.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ.—ഈ പഞ്ചായത്തു് റോഡിന്റെ സ്ഥിതിയെന്താണെന്നു ഗവൺമെൻറിനറിയാമോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ. പി. വി. രാഫേൽ.—ഫിനാൻസിൽ ഇൻസ്പെക്ഷൻ സമയത്തു് നടന്നുപോകുന്നതിനു സാധിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥിതിയിലായിരുന്നു.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Is it the policy of the Government to establish toll gates on village roads as well or only on trunk roads?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The policy of the Government finds expression in the Tolls Regulation and it is established on points where it will be effective to serve the purpose of tolls.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ.—ഈ ടോൾ വച്ചതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഡച്ചാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽ എന്തെങ്കിലും ആക്ഷേപം കിട്ടിയിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I do not find from the papers any petition.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ.—ദിവാൻപേഷ്കാർ ആ സ്ഥലത്തുചെന്നു് വല്ല അന്വേഷണവും നടത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The report to the Secretary to the Diwan shows that necessary enquiries have been made by the Tahsildar.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ.—ഒന്നുകൂടി അന്വേഷിക്കുവാൻ ഗവൺമെൻറിനു ദയവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—If specific complaints are preferred to me I shall be only too glad to make an enquiry.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Are the Government aware that within a mile of the 11th mile-stone of the Trichur—Koonamuchi road there is another toll?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—Is any portion of the toll money paid to the Panchayats?

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Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—No.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Is there any exception?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Excepting the tolls in the Municipality.

Reports re: action against Famine Relief Satyagrahies.

206. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Diwan and the Police Commissioner have read the reports published in the Al-Ameen, Calicut, the Mathrubhumi, Calicut, the Malayala Manorama, Kottayam and other newspapers about the uncalled-for repressive action of police against some of the Famine Relief Satyagrahies at Ernakulam;

(b) whether the Diwan has received any representation about this; and if so,

(c) from whom and when;

(d) what action has been taken by him in the matter;

(e) whether the Police Commissioner has made any enquiry into the matter; and, if not,

(f) what is the reason for not making any enquiry;

(g) if any enquiry has been made by the Police Commissioner, whether the report of his enquiry will be printed and placed on the table;

(h) whether any of the aforesaid Satyagrahies approached any of the Civil Surgeons at Ernakulam to give a medical certificate about his physical injuries; and if so,

(i) whether his request was complied with; and if not, what is the reason for not complying with it?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(a) Yes—in some papers.

(b) Yes.

(c) From Mr. K. M. Seethi and the President of the Muslims' public meeting at Ernakulam on 2—5—09.

(d) A report was called from the officers concerned and the allegation was found to be false.

(e) No formal enquiry was made.

(f) The Commissioner was in touch with the doings of the Police. There was also no complaint of the alleged police high-handedness.

(g) No answer is necessary in view of the answer to (e).

(h) No.

(i) No answer is necessary in view of the answer to (h).

Mr. K. G. Nayar.—(d) and (e). Apart from the reports called for from the officers, has the Commissioner of Police made any unofficial enquiry into this matter?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—(e) May I know who the officers concerned are in the enquiry?

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